Theology of Ecology

Calling the ecological crisis "the most important and controversial social issue we face today," a Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission staff member urged churches to develop a theology of ecology and a practice stewardship of power to correct abuses of the environment.

During a lecture-dialogue at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Harry N. Hollis Jr., urged action based on a theology of ecology drawn from Biblical teaching that God is Creator, that creation is good, that man should respond to God's creation with stewardship, that God will judge man for misusing the earth, that the whole creation is moving toward completion with a divine purpose, that God is redeemer, and that man must respond to creation and redemption with love.

Hollis quoted several experts in the field as predicting the possible extinction of mankind if something is not done soon about the pollution problem.

Ecology is controversial because it will involve the examination of such issues as "compulsory birth control, abortion and a shift in popularly held views of family life," he said. It also will call for higher taxes and further modification of the free enterprise system to stop industrial pollution, and will lead to limiting the number of automobiles.

Hollis cited figures indicating it would cost $100 billion in the next five years to clean up the country. But the cost of pollution ultimately is greater than the cost of cleaning up the problem.

Men Working

At times, when driving along the highway, one sees signs saying, "Men Working." And sometimes you also see the men working! Other times there is no sight of the men — just the sign.

But in contrast to this, as we go down the highways and byways of life, and as we follow the path of study of the Bible, we see over and over the sign, as it were, "God Working." It may seem to some that He is not at work today, but He is. The signs are all around, if we but have the spiritual eyes to see them.

Jesus said, "My Father worketh . . ." Let us trust and praise Him that He works today, and does all things well!

W. A. B.

Sabbath Renewal

O Lord our God, we praise Your name; You are from age to age the same; We seek from You Your holy way And pray that in our hearts You'll stay.
To rest and worship on the day That ends the week is Your own way; For in the day which You did bless We find true worship and Your rest.
The Sabbath law is one of ten That are the basic rules for men. While keeping Sabbath in Your name Help us to keep all ten the same.
Through Sabbath rest which we observe May we be readied, Lord, to serve In whate'er way Your Spirit leads To follow Christ and meet man's needs.

Resting, working, laughing, weeping, Serving, praying, Sabbathkeeping, May we ever learn Your call And dedicate to You our all.

John H. Camenga

Memorial Day impells us to pause again by the monuments raised by patriotic citizens to honor those who have given their lives for their country. This memorial, with the fluttering flag beside it, stands prominently in Battle Creek.
A Great Conference Year

Some events are said to occur only once in a lifetime, such as a total eclipse of the sun, or the appearance of certain fabulous comets. The tercentennial of our country may be one of these centennials. It so happens that 1971 is the tercentennial year of organized Seventh Day Baptist churches in America. Happy are those who are in good health on this centennial year and can attend General Conference in New England not far from your home.

The theme this year is far more challenging than any purely historical theme could be. President Thorngate was conscious of a long history when he picked his theme "The Responsibility of Maturity." What we of this generation have inherited from our New England forefathers of three centuries ago is not something old and ready to die, but something mature and ready to function as only a mature person can. We have the strength of developed form, of corrected mistakes, of cleared vision, ripened wisdom and often-flexed muscles.

Maturity brings its responsibilities. It calls for a steady progress in evangelism, in foreign and home missions and in social service that befits a Christian church. Maturity in facing the problems of our day implies something more than youthful flash-in-the-pan activism. It temperats activism with realism. Responsible action is not applying so much steam that the boiler explodes. pastry roll sparks off the track instead of steadily pulling the freight to its proper destination.

Some of us who try to remember the best of all former years of church work feel that the years ahead are more full of opportunities than any in the past. With a world population increasing faster than ever before, there are now evidences that doors are coming ajar even in Communist dominated countries. It so happens that 1971 is the centennial year of the American Baptist Convention and can attend the White House Conference on Youth. The days ahead are more full of challenge than it is trying to preserve. Our churches united under our timely theme must find more ways of serving and proclaiming. We are turning another century. Let us turn it with strength.

White House Conference on Youth

Some American Baptist leaders commenting upon this time on the White House Youth Conference scheduled far in the center of government at Estes Park, Colorado, were critical of the arrangements and structuring, fearing that the true voice of youth would not be heard. They wanted to set up a rival conference. Judging from the reports of two Baptist youth people at odds with the Government, those fears were not well founded.

Donald Earl Mitchell, 23, a graduate of Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, was nominated by the draft. Establish an all-volunteer national military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. The youth were nominated by the National Baptist Convention of the kind of young people who attended. His own expenses were paid by the White House Conference. He helped draft a recommendation which will go to the President concerning post-war reconstruction in Southeast Asia.

Two-thirds of the nearly 1,500 conference delegates were youth aged 16-24. The youth were nominated by 220 national organizations and governors of all fifty states. Representatives came also from sixty-two countries. Numerous reports and recommendations growing out of the four-day meeting will go soon to President Nixon.

It must be remembered that this was not a religious conference. The recommendations reflect a consensus of those present, not the voice of Christian youth, such as that of 10,000 youth who met at the Pennsylvania University for the Inter-Varsity missionary conference last December. These recommendations may be taken, however, as a broad and mature statement on the kind of young people who may also suggest to Christian youth leaders the areas where work is most needed. Here are some of the recommendations approved by the youth conference as reported by Baptist Public Affairs.

"Stop the war and withdraw all U.S. military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. Eliminate all discrimination based on race, color or political ideology. Cut the defense budget to $50 billion for 1972. Repeal the draft. Establish an All-Volunteer national military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. The youth were nominated by the National Baptist Convention of youth opinion on a number of subjects. They may also suggest to Christian youth leaders the areas where work is most needed. Here are some of the recommendations approved by the youth conference as reported by Baptist Public Affairs.

"Stop the war and withdraw all U.S. military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. Eliminate all discrimination based on race, color or political ideology. Cut the defense budget to $50 billion for 1972. Repeal the draft. Establish an All-Volunteer national military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. The youth were nominated by the National Baptist Convention of youth opinion on a number of subjects. They may also suggest to Christian youth leaders the areas where work is most needed. Here are some of the recommendations approved by the youth conference as reported by Baptist Public Affairs.

"Stop the war and withdraw all U.S. military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. Eliminate all discrimination based on race, color or political ideology. Cut the defense budget to $50 billion for 1972. Repeal the draft. Establish an All-Volunteer national military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. The youth were nominated by the National Baptist Convention of youth opinion on a number of subjects. They may also suggest to Christian youth leaders the areas where work is most needed. Here are some of the recommendations approved by the youth conference as reported by Baptist Public Affairs.

"Stop the war and withdraw all U.S. military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. Eliminate all discrimination based on race, color or political ideology. Cut the defense budget to $50 billion for 1972. Repeal the draft. Establish an All-Volunteer national military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. The youth were nominated by the National Baptist Convention of youth opinion on a number of subjects. They may also suggest to Christian youth leaders the areas where work is most needed. Here are some of the recommendations approved by the youth conference as reported by Baptist Public Affairs.

"Stop the war and withdraw all U.S. military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. Eliminate all discrimination based on race, color or political ideology. Cut the defense budget to $50 billion for 1972. Repeal the draft. Establish an All-Volunteer national military forces from Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty, 1-40-24. The youth were nominated by the National Baptist Convention of youth opinion on a number of subjects. They may also suggest to Christian youth leaders the areas where work is most needed. Here are some of the recommendations approved by the youth conference as reported by Baptist Public Affairs.
life for people in the inner cities. Legalize marijuana.

"Guarantee an adequate income for all. Stabilize the world's population. Share the world's resources equally among all people. Close as many as possible of the cycles of production and consumption by recycling and reusing. Give 18-year-olds the right to vote along with all other majority rights and responsibilities. Recognize and tolerate any sexual behavior between consenting, responsible individuals as an accepted life-style. Call another White House Conference on Youth in four years."

Memorial Day Stirs Us Again

Our national Memorial Day sets a time for remembering those who have gone on before, including those who have served in uniform under their country's flag. It is a beautiful custom to decorate their graves each Memorial Day with small flags, a patriotic gesture carried out by veteran organizations.

We need to be reminded that a failure to decorate a grave on such a stated occasion to honor the dead is an indication that we do not have a proper view of life as a whole. To see life as past, present, and future requires a discipline that we ought to cultivate. Not everyone can enter into the fullness of appreciation of the ongoing stream of life. Some do not have it tied together by an active faith in God or in Christ "who is the same yesterday, today, and forever." The Christian, however, knowing from whence he came and whither he goes can honor the past without worshipping it, can live in the present without being obsessed with it, and can look beyond the grave to a reunion in heaven—a hope that sweetens and motivates us to recognize and tolerate any sexual behavior between consenting, responsible individuals as an accepted life-style. Call another White House Conference on Youth in four years.

Cemeteries have not robbed us of all that we held dear, for there are but the resting places of bodies separated from spirit and personality until the time of the general resurrection and final reward. The tombstones serve a temporary purpose preserving names and life statistics for all to read.

Those who have died in Christ are now with Christ, the Scripture tells us—with Him in a closer sense than those still in the flesh. The Lord does not need to read gravestone inscriptions and the time will come when all who believe will forget the cemeteries and join together in eternal praise to our Redeemer.

For the moment of our earthly lives we are so cluttered with daily rounds of duties and distractions that we need reminders like Memorial Day and tombstones to tie us to our past as we look toward our future. Ask of our future, what can we do—and even those who died without faith—let us dedicate our lives to the mission of seeing that all the living hear the message of Christ. The tombstones are for those who have passed on before, including those who have no hope.

Our Prayer Corner

Suggestions for Prayer This Week

Pray for:
1) The Central, Southeastern, and Southwestern Associations as they meet in June, that the delegates and the churches may be strengthened.
2) The youth and children's camp programs, that they may build and nurture faith.
3) The many adults who are making vacation plans, that they may choose the best and find opportunities to witness effectively of their faith.
4) A sense of the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of many who have requested prayer.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Conférence Publicity

Camping and Lodging Facilities

No preview of General Conference would be complete without a look at camping facilities removed from the center of activity. For some delegates traveling from a distance this will be an unusual opportunity to indulge the desire for a camping experience in scenic New England with the attendant desire to live "in the rough" while attending Conference.

Others may find short-term lodging more convenient in regular commercial facilities in the area. In this interest the following information has been developed and includes a listing of hotel assistance it may provide the traveling delegates. All are urged, however, to enjoy the fellowship of "living on campus."

Actual camping sites are scarce in the Amherst area. Three privately owned sites are operating in the area: Sleepy Hollow Recreation Area is approximate­ly two miles outside of town, and can handle thirty camp units; Lake Wyola Park, Montague, Mass., 01351 is sixteen miles North of Amherst and has six camp sites; Robin Farm has facilities for over 200 camping units and is located in Belchertown, Mass., which is more than twenty miles from Amherst. Without personal investigation, no assessment of the desirability of any of these facilities can be given.

Several lodging places are available in Amherst beginning with the famous Lord Jeffrey Inn in the center of town. Amherst Carriage Motor Inn, and University Motor Lodge are also convenient, they are located close to the University Campus. In addition to these complete hotel accommodations there are several low-priced prices in the Campus Center. This last will be the ultimate in convenience since it is right in the same building as the Conference sessions and the ultimate in luxury as it is an ultra-modern hotel with all the appointments for comfort normally provided.

Subsequent articles will outline routes of travel and methods of transportation serving the area so that the delegate from another state can choose the best way for him and his family to make the trip to Amherst, Mass., and General Conference 1971. Plan now to attend!

So You're Going to Conference!

Some of us have had the pleasure of attending Conference in the past. Maybe that is no longer possible but we are still anxious to know what goes on. Some of our church members have never had the thrill of attending Conference and don't know what they have missed. As a delegate, when you return home and give your report, keep both groups in mind.

Try to pass on the thrill of being a part of that larger group — the fellowship, meeting "celebrities," new friendships. Most important, what is effective to you personally? How has it changed your thinking and attitudes? Try to make everyone listening to you wish they had been there and determine to go next year.

Then be more specific. How was this Conference different than the others? What are the new programs, new leadership, changes in emphasis? What is each church urged to try to do this year?

In order to do this you must make an effort to attend all sessions. Take notes, pick up programs and outlines. Study these over on your return home.

When you are ready to give your report, make notes and go over these several times in preparation. Never get caught without something to say. "I don't know what they have missed. As a delegate, when you return home and give your report, keep both groups in mind."

Let's go to Conference!

Margaret L. Collins

MAY 29, 1971
Daytona Beach Ministry

Many individuals have prayed for the special Team Ministry at Daytona Beach in April. The report of the Rev. Myron G. Soper to the missionary board includes the following:

The last day of March I flew to Dayton­
ba Beach for the long-planned beach ministry for the students who flock to the beaches each spring vacation. This dedicated service project was planned by the Daytona Beach church, and the team worked under their sponsorship. The members who came to work with me were Steve Crouch of Plainfield, N.J.; Peter Morris of Los Angeles, Calif.; Tibbie Maddox of Riverside, Calif.; and Carol Soper of Bartlesville, Okla. They had all arrived by Sunday, April 4. Each morning we started the day by fixing our own breakfast in the church kitchen with food the church provided. (This was done because we did not get up early due to the fact that we worked late each night on the beach.) We then spent time in Bible study and prayer and practice which would share with the church when needed. We usually were on the beach by about 1:00 or 1:30 p.m. We spent the afternoon witnessing then went to one of the church members’ homes for the evening meal. In the evening I taught the training course in the church. The team members stayed to lead in the evening services, but usually left for the beach again right after the evening meal. They would work there until 11:00, 12:00 or even 1:00 a.m.

The approach used was basically that of Campus Crusade for Christ using the “Four Spiritual Laws” as a means of clear presentation of Christ upon all of our lives. During the time of our witness six or eight young people prayed to receive Christ as their personal Savior and in their joyous consideration to these claims. We did not keep a record of the numbers that we talked with but the personal confrontations would run close to two hundred for the week. Many more than this were approached but no meaningful dialogue carried on. The young people were urged to always get the name and address of those with whom a meaningful follow-up ministry could be carried on by correspondence.

The result of this beach ministry is not something which will make any impact upon our churches . . . not in the numbers. But it is a meaningful and necessary ministry to the young people of our land. This ministry was also conducted by other Christian groups such as Campus Crusade who had approximately 1,000 young people there for witnessing and Baptist Student Union who had 300 there for the same purpose. There were approximately 80,000 young people on the beach during the week of our ministry. By the end of the week it was difficult to approach anyone to talk about Christ who had not already been contacted at least once and often several times. I consider this not only significant but valuable in that this witness for Christ, given to so many from all over the land, cannot be without an impact upon their lives even if they do not make any decision at the present time. This kind of consistent witness through the years could not help but have an impact upon our nation.

In addition to the beach work the team shared in the life and worship of the Day­tona church. On Wednesday noon the church gathered for a noon meal to­gether to share Christ with every person there. They would share a testimony of their own Christian faith and a witnessing experience, which we would share in the assembled group. On “Good Friday” community services were held in our church, with Pastor Van Horn as the host pastor. The team provided music for three of those services and again a testimony to the group from the community.

Beginning on Friday night evangelistic meetings were held for the church. These continued through Sunday night. Again the team shared by music and testimonies. They participated in every area of the church life during their stay with the church in Daytona Beach.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

Probe ’72 Aims for Key ’73

Readers of this journal are getting used to the term “Key ’73” which will become much better known when Protestant denom­inations begin their never-before-at­tempted effort of sharing Christ with every person in North America. Seventh Day Baptists are committed to this pro­gram already at the next future, as was stated in our preparations before ’73 will as contribute effectively to our denominational evangelistic effort. Knowledge of the prepara­tions that others are making may be helpful.

All branches of the Mennonites are planning a convocation of some 2,000 delegates in 1972 in what they call Probe ’72. The idea is to probe every possible area of evangelism and to lay plans for entering at least eleven areas of human contact with the gospel.

A major effort for Mennonites and related groups will begin this summer. Congregations throughout the Anabaptist brotherhood will soon be laying plans for involvement in Probe ’72. A Probe planning kit—brochure, fact sheet, re­sources, is currently being mailed to pastors of all participating groups from denominational offices.

Probe ’72, the All-Mennonite Con­sultation, is in turn helping to prepare congregations for the year-long evangelism-in-depth thrust of Key ’73. Henry Ginder, director of Evangelism, Brethren in Christ Churches, sees Probe ’72 a vital opportunity for renewing evangelistic interest in local congregations.

“Probe should intensify our concern for the whole man—body, soul and spirit,” said Ginder. “The consultation can deepen our love for the Lord Jesus Christ, and bring us to the fullness of the Holy Spirit for our ministry of reconciliation. We need this now—and we’ll certainly need it for Key ’73.”

Key ’73 is a never-before-attempted effort in country-wide evangelism. The stated aim is “Christians working together to share Christ with every person in North America.” New methods of outreach will be attempted, new resources developed, new local efforts will be made to penetrate Canadian and United States society.

The planners for the all-Mennonite consultation called “Probe ’72” have already organized the following eleven areas of human contact and appointed a chairman over each to present evidences, methods, means and testimonies:

Evangelism in the Healing Arts
Evangelism Through Teaching
Evangelism in Preaching
Retreats and Small Groups
Personal Evangelism and Visitations
Social Evangelism
Peace Witness as Evangelism
Evangelism through Mass Media
Evangelism in Music
Youth and Evangelism
Drama and the Arts

Prominent Persons

Dr. Lewis “Pete” May is prominent as a physician in the Arcadia-Temple City area of Southern California. He is strongly civic minded and wanted to do something to improve the school system. His interest in the school board was enhanced by the fact that he and his wife Nancy have four sons coming up through the schools. Anyway, he ran an active campaign for membership on the Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education.

The Arcadia News-Post of April 21 published the story of how three winners with five contestants. The two incumbents were returned to office. The paper states that the vote was the largest in history with 68.8 percent of the registered voters going to the polls. After the election Dr. May, who had run on a first-time platform of providing better quality education through the use of educational television and a revamping of the vocational educational program, stated, “We have got a lot of things that we need to do, and I have made my case and now I will follow through.”

Dr. May had previously made a name for himself in denominational circles, hav­ing served as president of General Con­ference in 1967 and member of Committee for three years ending in 1968.
The following comparison between seventh-day and first-day Sabbath arguments has been developing in the mind of the writer. Gladys Sutton Randolph, for a long time. The title refers to the fact that she lives at some distance from her home church (Milton, Wis.) and that for years she has been closely associated with the leadership of large Sunday-keeping churches as church organist. She was impelled and encouraged to write out her thoughts for the benefit of others. By way of identification, Mrs. Randolph is the daughter of the late Rev. Eriel E. Sutton and the sister of the Rev. Tregav R. Sutton.

Sabbath Belief Strengthened by Exposure to Sunday Belief

The seventh-day Sabbath was kept by religious peoples in both the Old and New Testaments. Prophets (men of God) and apostles (followers of Christ) observed the seventh day of the week, the latter preaching, teaching, and healing on the Sabbath as Christ did (Luke 4:16-44).

My conclusion to the matter is that there is no proof Christ arose on the first day of the week. He was gone from the tomb by then, and he did not leave any instructions about a change in the day of worship and rest. How much better to follow the practice of Jesus worshiping on the Sabbath "as his custom was" at the beginning of His ministry (Luke 4:16). Jesus made the Sabbath (the seventh day of the week) a day of rest and a day of delight unto the Lord. I wish to do the same.

The Hope of Contemporary Man

Biblical insights on the problems of contemporary man were considered at Dallas, Tex., by more than 3,500 Southern Baptists gathered for the denomination's first Nationwide Bible Conference.

Some ninety-five Bible scholars supported the conference theme of "Christian Faith in a Time of Crisis" through sermons, intensive Bible study and discussions of the Bible and contemporary concerns.

Most of the time during the three-day meeting was spent in forty daily morning Bible study group sessions, and in forty-five afternoon conferences dealing with application of the Bible to contemporary concerns. General sessions were held each evening. In a great dealing with what the Bible says to youth, Peter Rhea Jones, professor of New Testament at Southern Seminar, said that the church must remember she is one step from extinction.

"If we give them (youth) shallow concern and lose the dynamics of commitment to Christ, we lose a whole generation," Jones said. "If we care for them, we will lead them throughout life. To youth workers and others I want to say that you must get on the wave length of youth rather than insisting on their getting on your wave length."

Duke K. McCall, president of Southern Seminary, said, "We each may not have the same understanding of the Bible, but we must each study it with the light God has given us and ask the Holy Spirit to help us understand it."

"My Bible is not as large as the Bible. I have not appropriated into my life and thoughts and expectations enough of its teachings and its meanings," said McCall.

In the first evening session of the week-long Bible emphasis, Colbert Rutenber, professor of philosophy of religion at the American Baptist Seminary of the West, Contra Cali, told conference participants that "the Bible shaped modern man.

"The Bible understands modern man more than he understands himself. It revolutionizes modern man," he said.

"The last word the Bible gives is resurrection. History will not be in vain. The world will not end in history. God is able to bring order out of chaos."

Dale Moody, professor of Christian Theology at Southern Seminary, spoke out against authoritarianism in the interpretation of Scriptures as he addressed himself to "The Bible and the Holy Spirit."

"If all you have is a wooden authoritarianism and if you don't have the Holy Spirit to help you understand this book, then your religion will be a masquerade.

"I want an open Bible, with no strait-jackets and superimposed limits on interpretations. I want freedom in the Holy Spirit," Moody declared.

—from a B.P. report by Charles Willis
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Sec. David S. Clarke
Quarterly Meeting
News and Goals
Twenty-one members and a guest were present for the regular quarterly directors’ meeting of the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education on April 25, at the Alfred Parish House. Treasurer Maurice McCrea was absent due to surgery, and a resolution of loving concern was voted to be conveyed to him by his pastor, C. Harmon Dickson, who is chairman of the Board’s Finance Committee.

The regular reports of officers and committees were augmented by a report from a Bylaw Revision Committee appointed by the president. Donald Van Horn as chairman reported proposed changes which would:
1—encourage selection of consultants by committee chairmen.
2—encourage overlap of communication between outgoing committee members and newly elected board members.
3—provide for a three-year term for the executive secretary with annual review.
4—provide for amendment of bylaws with presentation of the proposal at previous meeting or in the call to the meeting, (a) by majority vote of the corporation membership, or (b) by two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

These amendments will be presented at the next meeting of the Board of Directors for further consideration before proposal to the corporate meeting for final action.

The executive secretary’s report was presented in mimeo form. "In addition to a report of his work during the quarter," the recording secretary’s minutes read, "Rev. Clarke distributed copies of his thoughts regarding goals, processes, products and agencies of the Board of Christian Education. He asked that these outlines be considered for a period of time before they are formally accepted or rejected by the board."

The executive presented a correlation between the bylaws of the board as stated in the corporate charter, the goals of Christian Education as generally described in ecumenical groups and the “products” of the Board of Christian Education such as: pamphlets, curricular materials, guidebooks, periodicals, services and activities in local churches. He asked the board members to assist him in better achievement of goals using the committees (agencies) and the processes to “both honor Christ and share Him with others.” He concluded, "Everything, then, that the board does becomes a means of facilitating, or enabling the loving revolution" (Wayne Rood’s phrase), helping with the discovery of the objectives, the scope, the context, the learning tasks, and the group relations which both honor Christ and share Him with others.

These suggestions came out of the Executive Committee’s consideration of both the bylaws and the job analysis of the executive secretary.

The treasurer’s report, presented by Harmon Dickinson, showed quarter’s receipts of $4,633.32. General Fund balance on Jan. 1, was $1,932.80. On Mar. 31 was $1,932.80. Publications costs in the quarter were: Helping Hand $2,182.44; Sabbath Visitor $2,285.00; The Sabbath: Symbol of Creation and Re-Creation $500 (one third of board’s total); Annual Report $253. Total expenditures for the quarter were $5,703.08.

The Finance Committee reported on its work on the proposed 1972 budget, and minor adjustments in the 1971 operation. The Education Committee reported plans for the Ministers Conference and other forms of higher education. The Vocational Committee told of its work in preparing general distribution folders to accumulate helpful vignettes of "Able Seventh Day Baptists" who share Sabbath in their vocation. The Publicity Committee expressed thanks for the contributions to its major project of the special issue of the Sabbath Recorder with its camping theme. The Family Life Committee reported plans for the Ministers Conference giving through co-operative efforts, food and service to make the conference as low a cost as possible. I estimated around $1,000, a minimum was provided in this way, which would have been charged to the church or pastor if handled otherwise. (Any invitations to enter Ministers Conference in 1973 should be sent to Exec. Sec. David Clarke, Box 115, Alfred Station NY 14803!) Travel costs, registration, and lost wages were reported (on a survey made by the Stewardship chairman) at $2,700. of which the pastors themselves were out about one-third personally. Some churches pay all expenses, others pay none. The fellowship of pastors of like faith draws our clergy together. Remember the time and expense to encourage your pastor? Why not check on your pastor’s expenses and helping out on that other $900 he (collectively) spent?

Everyone sets priorities every day, scheduling activities by time, money and ability. Be sure God gets first/choice in your priority list!

Stewardship Observations
By Paul B. Osborn

I was able to visit with several pastors at our Ministers Conference recently. One pastor was quite distressed because of criticism he had heard regarding his salary, which is partially paid by the Missionary Society. “But,” he said, “if I got any less I’d have to leave my field of work and I don’t want that. What other workers (God’s workers, really) have responsibilities, and they’ll have to take the time working at something else to fulfill them unless we fulfill our responsibility in financial stewardship.

The Battle Creek church entertained Ministers Conference, giving through cooperative efforts, food and service to make the conference as low a cost as possible. I estimated around $1,000, a minimum was provided in this way, which would have been charged to the church or pastor if handled otherwise. (Any invitations to enter Ministers Conference in 1973 should be sent to Exec. Sec. David Clarke, Box 115, Alfred Station NY 14803!) Travel costs, registration, and lost wages were reported (on a survey made by the Stewardship chairman) at $2,700. of which the pastors themselves were out about one-third personally. Some churches pay all expenses, others pay none. The fellowship of pastors of like faith draws our clergy together. Remember the time and expense to encourage your pastor? Why not check on your pastor’s expenses and helping out on that other $900 he (collectively) spent?

Everyone sets priorities every day, scheduling activities by time, money and ability. Be sure God gets first/choice in your priority list!

Unselling Drugs
The President has asked that an advertising campaign be created to “unsell” drugs to all America. Quite a challenge. The Advertising Council was given the assignment. The ads are appearing in newspapers.
Pacific Coast Association
By Evelyn Ring

The Pacific Coast Association of Seventh Day Baptists met with the Riverside church April 23, with the program theme, "Christian Commitment: The Challenge of Change." Friday evening Pastor Leland Davis spoke on "Who Will Be Each Other's Bereavement?" asking that we must be able to recognize that sometimes change can be beneficial.

Sabbath morning Pastor Duane Davis preached about "Christian Commitment in Today's World." In this age of breakdown of home life when values are relative, when people believe only what can be proved, when freedom is doing what we please, when man seems to be insignificant, when being certain about religion is arrogant, the church must make an impact on the world, must penetrate every segment of society, must dissolve traditionalism, must intensify personal relationships, and cultivate a stronger faith. Christ must be all inclusive.

In the afternoon the Los Angeles young adults presented the program on "The Christian Commitment." Peter Morris as leader. Several young people spoke from their experiences in Christian endeavor, including Tibbie Maddox on her experiences in Daytona Beach.

The highlight of the association program was the wonderful presentation on Sabbath evening of the cantata, "Hail Glory" on the crucifixion and resurrection presented by the Los Angeles choir of thirty voices, directed by Mrs. Arlie Davis, Phoenix; Dr. Dale Curtis, Riverside.

The Sabbath offering for the Pacific Coast Association was brought in to about $450, and will be applied toward the new budget of $12,373.

Central New York Association

The Verona church is host to the Central New York Association of Seventh Day Baptist churches this year with meetings scheduled for June 4, 5, and 6. The moderator is Richard L. De Ruyter church, and the subject for the program is based upon 1 John 3:17, 18. The theme is "Listen, Love, and Respond." The Scripture on which the program is based is 1 John 3:17, 18. The association theme hymn is "Open My Eyes that I May See" by J. S. M. Smith.

The Saturday morning service begins at eleven o'clock. Dale Rood, guest speaker from the Eastern Association, will bring three messages to the church. Already, he has completed the Standard Normal Course at Salem College, Salem, W. Va. He served in the Army during 1918-1919, eleven months of which service was overseas. Upon discharging from the Army, he returned to Farina, where he taught school for six years. After he and his family moved to West Virginia, he served as pastor of the Kittanning church, and was engaged in a farming operation nearby. In due time they went to Salem to live, which was their home until they moved to Alfred, N. Y., in 1968, where he lived until his time of death.

In 1937, Mr. Seager was graduated from West Virginia University at Morgantown where he organized the Vocational Agriculture Department of the Bristol, W. Va., High School, which, by the time of his retirement age, due to a shortage of teachers in his field, he was deeply interested in the progress of his students.

He was a member of the American Legion and was a past president of the Salem Kiwanis Club.

Due to the nature of his last illness, he and Mrs. Seager moved to Hartland in procedures which added to his suffering, yet with the hope that such research might be of help to future sufferers.

Deacon Seager was always interested in nature. To paraphrase the hymn writer's words: All nature sang, and round him rang the music of the spheres. His strongest quality resided in his faith in nature's Creator which led him to the dedication of his life to Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, and in through His church. He understood God's plan of reconciliation and was one of God's reconcilers.

Memorial services were held at the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church on June 10, 1971, at which time the Rev. Hurley S. Warren, officiating. Interment was in Alfred Rural Cemetery.

Religion in Working Clothes

Out of a large congregation only a half dozen had volunteered to visit the correctional institutions. The others were different from the church, they sang, prayed, and talked with prisoners. The six had sat in comfortable pews that morning and heard a trained choir sing an anthem; now they attempted to sing simple gospel songs without accompanied by men behind the bars. Instead of a polished sermon, a talk in simple, down-to-earth terms about the essentials of salvation was given by one of the jail band.

Visible results? Nothing spectacular—one prisoner out of all the ones in several cell blocks gave his heart to God! Yet there was another less evident result: six lay members had become better fitted for future witnessing of their Savior.

—Eugene Lincoln

THE SABBATH RECORDER

MAY 29, 1971
Arab-Jewish Friendship Efforts

In spite of all that gets in the news about the hostility between Arabs and Jews in Israel and the occupied territories, there is much to indicate that the barriers between them are breaking down. Some local stories that illustrate this include:

- A normal Arab-Israeli discussion groups meeting in private homes, taking place alternately in the homes of Arabs and Israelis.
- The “Friends of Abu Gosh,” a group that sponsors various activities for children at an Arab village of that name near Jerusalem. A recent trip for sixty-seven children, for example, included a swim in the Mediterranean, which many of the children saw for the first time, and a visit to a kibbutz where Arab and Israeli children mingled freely.
- The Spafford Children’s Playground, only playground for children in East Jerusalem within the ancient city walls. This school, which teaches Hebrew and a visit to a kibbutz where Arab and Israeli children mingled freely.

Southwestern Association

The eighteenth session of the Southwestern Association will meet with the Texarkana church from June 10 to 13. The theme of the association will be “The True Simplicity of Christianity.” Robert Fitz Randolph of 1401 Orleans St., Texarkana, Ark., is president. His mother, Mrs. Ormsby, is assistant secretary, and Mrs. C. M. Beebe, Paint Rock, Ala. 35764 is general secretary. —Secretary

The Board of Christian Education reported an average attendance of fifty-two at Sabbath School. The children’s classes this year for the first time in the history of the school have been a success.

Once a month at the close of Sabbath School the Evangelism Committee has presented filmstrips on Seventh Day Baptist conferences in various parts of the world.

The Women’s Society has shown special interest this year in the Day-Care Center, providing refreshments frequently and making many items for the comfort and training of the children. An average of fifteen women have attended the Women’s Society meetings.

The new young adult group is meeting in various homes once a month.

We welcome this year to our assistant pastor, Alan Crouch, and his family when they go to DeRuiter. In his report Pastor Saunders said of him: “He is a conscientious young pastor and has shown abilities that we all thank God for. His awareness of need and his compassion and love for people have been inspiring.”

On April 17 three children were dedicated by the Rev. Alton Wheeler: Michael Saunders, Dawn LeMieux, and James Camenga.

Our annual planning session was held May 7-8 instead of in September, so that the committees could get an early start on their work for the church year.

Mr. Ormsby taught school at Alfred Station for seven years after taking the Teachers Training Course at Alfred. The family moved to the present farm home in 1925, where they operated a dairy and poultry farm. He has served on the Alfred-Almond Central School Board and was a veteran of World War I.

Memorial services were conducted at the Schilke Funeral Home, conducted by the Rev. Francis D. Saunders and the Rev. Everett T. Harris, with burial in Riverbend Cemetery, Westerly.

—E. T. H.
DAILY BIBLE READINGS
For June 1971

God's Call to Faith
1-Tues. Trust the Lord, Not Men. Isaiah 31:1-6
3-Thurs. Messiah's Prayer. Isaiah 42:1-4; Micah 1:2-4
4-Fri. The Life of Faith. 1 Timothy 6:11-21

The Coming Messianic Kingdom
6-Sun. The King of All the Earth. Psalm 148
7-Man. The Lord's Universal Reign. Isaiah 2:2-4; Micah 4:1-5
8-Tues. The Messianic King. Isaiah 9:5-7; Luke 4:16-21
9-Wed. The Hope of the Future. Isaiah 11:1-10
12-Sabbath Restraint. Exodus 20:8-11; Romans 7:12-25

God Requires Economic Justice
13-Sun. The Lord Judges. Micah 1:2-16
16-Wed. God Demands Justice. Psalms 82 and 76
17-Thurs. Divine Help for the Needy. Psalms 113 and 111

God Requires Personal Righteousness
22-Tues. Evil Leads to Distress. Micah 7:1-7
23-Wed. Forgiveness by the Lord. Micah 7:8-20
25-Fri. God's Approval. Isaiah 35:5-16

Set Free To Serve
28-Mon. Set Free by the Lord. John 8:39
29-Tues. Limits in Christian Freedom. 1 Cor. 6:1-13; 9:12-23

Pointing Up the Year
By Leon R. Lawton

A recent letter from a business corporation had a unique method of showing that this was their ninety-first year of operation. At the heading of the letter the date was given "May 4th of 91st year - 1971."

Since this is the 300th year for Seventh Day Baptists in America the thought immediately came: Why not use a similar method in our correspondence? The words would be a bit longer but would be a constant reminder to those with whom we correspond, as well as to those who write, that this is the 300th anniversary of Seventh Day Baptists in America.

Why not consider changing your letter headings in this way? Instead of just putting down May 10, 1971, write it this way: May 10 of Seventh Day Baptists' 300th Year - 1971. It may be that this would help others understand and enter with us in the joy of our tercentennial celebration.